

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 SAJ-01 IO-14 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 NIC-01

OMB-01 DRC-01 /113 W

----- 120512

O R 050407Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3554

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION NATO

DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 3032

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN GOVERNMENT CRISIS

DIA FOR A2 AND DI5

1. PRESIDENT LEONE'S CONSULTATIONS WITH FORMER PRESIDENTS,
FORMER PRIME MINISTERS AND OTHER POLITICAL LEADERS ARE PROCEEDING
AS SCHEDULED AND ARE EXPECTED TO CONCLUDE LATE EVENING MARCH 5.

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IN LINE WITH MARCH 2 DECISION OF THE DC DIRECTORATE, THE

LEADERSHIP OF THE DC CHAMBER AND SENATE GROUPS YESTERDAY UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO SUPPORT THE DESIGNATION OF OUTGOING PRIME MINISTER RUMOR TO FORM NEW, "ORGANIC" (I.E., FOUR PARTY) CENTER-LEFT GOVERNMENT. ACCORDING TO DC SOURCE PRESENT AT CHAMBER GROUP LEADERSHIP MEETING, ALTERNATES TO FORMATION OF FOUR PARTY CENTER-LEFT WERE DELIBERATELY NOT DISCUSSED TO AVOID COMPROMISING DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH REPUBLICANS ON THEIR TERMS FOR RE-ENTRY.

2. IT THUS APPEARS VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THAT EITHER LATE MARCH 5 OR EARLY MARCH 6 PRESIDENT LEONE WILL DESIGNATE RUMOR TO MAKE THE FIRST TRY AT FORMING A NEW GOVERNMENT. ALTHOUGH RUMOR'S MANADATE FROM PRESIDENT WILL PROBABLY BE BROAD (I.E., LEAVING WAY OPEN FOR EITHER FOUR PARTY OR THREE PARTY CENTER-LEFT), RUMOR'S FIRST EFFORTS WILL CLEARLY BE DIRECTED AT REFORGING FULL CENTER-LEFT INCLUDING REPUBLICANS.VOLPE

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30 JUN 2005

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